

Introduced by Senator Kelley

January 14, 2000

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 58—Relative to the Doctor June McCarroll Memorial Freeway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 58, as introduced, Kelley. Doctor June McCarroll Memorial Freeway.

This measure would dedicate the portion of Interstate Highway Route 10 near Indio in Riverside County between the Jefferson Street and Indio Boulevard interchange and the junction with State Highway Route 86 to the memory of Doctor June McCarroll, and would specify that this portion of Interstate Highway Route 10 shall be known as the “Doctor June McCarroll Memorial Freeway.” This measure also would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate plaques and markers showing that special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those plaques and markers.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Doctor June McCarroll first arrived in
2 California in 1904, when she moved to Indio in order to
3 place her ailing husband in a health camp for persons
4 inflicted with tuberculosis; and

5 WHEREAS, It was in Indio where Doctor June
6 McCarroll acquired the name “Doctor June” and
7 traveled, at first by horse and buggy and later by
8 horseback, in order to practice medicine; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1907, Doctor June practiced medicine
2 on five Indian reservations and later became the doctor
3 retained by the Southern Pacific Railroad to treat its
4 employees in the Coachella Valley; and

5 WHEREAS, In later life, she expressed regrets that
6 younger doctors were seemingly unable to function
7 without modern hospitals and other conveniences when
8 she had sometimes operated on kitchen tables, explaining
9 “I would clear off the table, tie the patient down, and
10 administer the anesthetic”; and

11 WHEREAS, Doctor June is also credited with starting
12 the first library in the Coachella Valley; and

13 WHEREAS, Although Doctor June McCarroll has a
14 reputation in the Coachella Valley based on her practice
15 of medicine and dedication to her immediate
16 community, she is also known for her role in initiating the
17 painting of centerlines upon streets and highways; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1924, after she and the Indio Women’s
19 Club and the California Federation of Women’s Clubs
20 proposed it, the idea of painting a centerline on state
21 highways was adopted by the California Highway
22 Commission, and the first white centerline was painted,
23 by hand with a paintbrush, on Indio Boulevard,
24 coincidentally, on the street where Doctor June
25 McCarroll was then living; and

26 WHEREAS, This idea has saved thousands of lives since
27 its early beginning over 75 years ago; and

28 WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the portion of
29 Interstate Highway Route 10 near Indio in Riverside
30 County between the Jefferson Street and Indio
31 Boulevard interchange and the junction with State
32 Highway Route 86 be dedicated in the memory of this
33 remarkable person; now, therefore, be it

34 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the*
35 *Assembly thereof concurring,* That the Legislature
36 hereby dedicates the portion of Interstate Highway
37 Route 10 near Indio in Riverside County between the
38 Jefferson Street and Indio Boulevard interchange and the
39 junction with State Highway Route 86 to the memory of
40 Doctor June McCarroll; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That this portion of Interstate Highway
2 Route 10 be officially designated the “Doctor June
3 McCarroll Memorial Freeway”; and be it further

4 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is
5 requested to determine the cost of appropriate plaques
6 and markers, consistent with the signing requirements
7 for the state highway system, showing this special
8 designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
9 sources covering that cost, to erect those plaques and
10 markers; and be it further

11 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit
12 copies of this resolution to the Director of Transportation
13 and to the author for distribution.

